

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Applicant: Snyder et al.

App. No.: 10/749,675

Filed: December 30, 2003

Title: HAND HELD ORAL IRRIGATOR

Con. No.: 9766

Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Lewis, Ralph A.

SUBMISSION OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

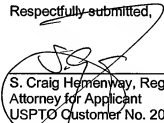
Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find eighteen (18) sheets of formal drawings which are to be filed in the above-identified case pursuant to the Notice of Allowability mailed July 3, 2006. A copy of the Notice is enclosed for ready review.

If there are any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: 29 September, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


S. Craig Hemenway, Registration No. 44,759
Attorney for Applicant
USPTO Customer No. 20686

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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

20686

7590

07/03/2006

DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
370 SEVENTEENTH STREET
SUITE 4700
DENVER, CO 80202-5647

EXAMINER

LEWIS, RALPH A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3732

DATE MAILED: 07/03/2006

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/749,675	12/30/2003	Clifford J. Snyder	1985US2	9766

TITLE OF INVENTION: HAND HELD ORAL IRRIGATOR

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1400	\$300	\$1700	10/03/2006

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail** Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

20686 7590 07/03/2006

DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
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Certificate of Mailing or Transmittal

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Patent Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1400	\$300	\$1700	10/03/2006
EXAMINER		ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS		
LEWIS, RALPH A		3732	433-089000		

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/1122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY AND STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

- ☐ A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above. NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant, a registered attorney or agent, or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

LEWIS, RALPH A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3732

DATE MAILED: 07/03/2006

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)
(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 104 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 104 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/749,675

Examiner

Ralph A. Lewis

Applicant(s)

SNYDER ET AL.

Art Unit

3732

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment of March 24, 2006 and attached Examiner's Amendment.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10, 14, 15, 11-13, 22, 19, 20, 25 16-18, 23 and 24 (renumbered 1-24, respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ Including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ Including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 24 March 2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Ralph A. Lewis
Primary Examiner
Au 3732

Art Unit: 3732

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with S. Craig Hemenway on June 20, 2006.

1. (Currently Amended) A hand held oral irrigation device for irrigating an oral cavity with a fluid, the device comprising:

a reservoir for storing the fluid;

a body; and

an elongated nozzle; wherein

the reservoir comprises:

a shelf portion defined about a bottom portion of the reservoir; and

a base at a bottom end of the reservoir;

a reservoir inlet conduit positioned along the base of the reservoir so that fluid is drawn from the bottom of the reservoir;

a fluid access valve fluidly coupling with said inlet conduit, the fluid access valve comprising:

a channel defined within the reservoir extending from the shelf to the

base, said channel receiving [an] said inlet conduit and fluidly coupled thereto;

a seal positioned about a top end of the channel;

a spring extending upwardly from the base within the reservoir; and

a ball positioned within the channel between said seal and said spring;

[and

a reservoir inlet conduit positioned along the base of the reservoir, the reservoir inlet conduit fluidly coupled with the channel, so that fluid is drawn from the bottom of the reservoir;]

wherein the reservoir defines a first major diameter at a lower end of the oral irrigation device and the body and reservoir combine to define a second major diameter at an upper end of the oral irrigation device, the first major diameter being larger than the second major diameter.

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Comment

The present amendment does not add any limitations to the present claim, but merely rearranges the previously claimed subject matter so as to provide antecedent basis for the "said inlet conduit" to which the fluid access valve is fluidly coupled.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.84 (i) and (p) as being informal. The lines, numbers and letters lack uniformity and are fuzzy lacking sharp definition. No new matter should be entered.

Replacement drawings are required. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to **Ralph Lewis** at telephone number (571) 272-4712. Fax (571) 273-8300. The examiner works a compressed work schedule and is unavailable every other Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver, can be reached at (571) 272-4720.

R. Lewis
June 20, 2006


Ralph A. Lewis
Primary Examiner
Au3732

PTO/SB/08a (08-03)
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 Submission Form 1448A/P/TQ

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

APPLICATION NO.:
 10/749,675

FILING DATE:
 December 30, 2003

APPLICANT:
 Snyder et al.

ART UNIT:
 3732

EXAMINER NAME:
 Lewis, Ralph A.

ATTY. DOCKET NO.:
 1985/US/2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	Name of Patentee of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code* (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
RL	1.	1,278,225	09/1918	Schamberg	S
	2.	1,498,267	06/1924	Hachman	
	3.	1,681,320	08/1928	Bergl et al.	
	4.	2,984,452	05/1961	Hooper	
	5.	3,144,867	08/1964	Trupp et al.	
	6.	3,225,759	12/1965	Drapen et al.	
	7.	3,297,558	01/1967	Hillquist	
	8.	D208,778	10/1967	Koch	
	9.	D209,395	11/1967	Gilbert	
	10.	3,400,999	09/1968	Goldstein	
	11.	3,453,969	07/1969	Mattingly	
	12.	3,465,751	09/1969	Powers	
	13.	3,487,828	01/1970	Troy	
	14.	3,499,440	03/1970	Gibbs	
	15.	3,502,072	03/1970	Stillman	
	16.	D216,270	08/1970	Soper	
	17.	3,537,444	11/1970	Garn	
	18.	3,583,609	06/1971	Oppenheimer	
	19.	3,608,548	09/1971	Lewis	
	20.	3,747,595	07/1973	Grossan	
	21.	3,943,628	03/1976	Kronman et al.	
	22.	3,973,558	08/1976	Stouffer et al.	
	23.	4,201,200	05/1980	Hubner	
	24.	4,248,589	02/1981	Lewis	
	25.	4,303,064	12/1981	Buffa	
	26.	4,315,741	02/1982	Reichl	
	27.	4,370,131	01/1983	Banko	
	28.	4,787,845	11/1988	Valentine	
	29.	4,941,459	07/1990	Mathur	
	30.	4,958,751	09/1990	Curtis et al.	
	31.	4,973,250	11/1990	Millman	
	32.	4,979,504	12/1990	Mills	
	33.	5,049,071	09/1991	Davis et al.	
	34.	5,098,291	03/1992	Curtis et al.	
	35.	5,127,831	07/1992	Bab	
	36.	5,197,458	03/1993	Ito et al.	
	37.	5,203,697	04/1993	Malmin	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	Name of Patentee of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
PL	38.	5,208,933	05/1993	Lustig et al.	S
	39.	5,230,624	07/1993	Wolf et al.	
	40.	5,232,687	08/1993	Geimer	
	41.	5,267,586	12/1993	Jankavaara	
	42.	5,269,684	12/1993	Fischer	
	43.	5,281,139	01/1994	Frank et al.	
	44.	5,282,745	02/1994	Willtrout et al.	
	45.	5,297,962	03/1994	O'Connor et al.	
	46.	5,302,123	04/1994	Bechard	
	47.	D351,892	10/1994	Wolf et al.	
	48.	5,360,338	11/1994	Waggoner	
	49.	5,370,534	12/1994	Wolf et al.	
	50.	5,380,201	01/1995	Kawata	
	51.	5,474,451	12/1995	Dairymple et al.	
	52.	5,490,779	02/1996	Malmin	
	53.	5,525,058	06/1996	Gallant et al.	
	54.	5,526,841	06/1996	Detsch et al.	
	55.	5,540,587	07/1996	Malmin	
	56.	5,634,791	06/1997	Matsuura et al.	
	57.	5,749,726	05/1998	Kinsel	
	58.	5,876,201	03/1999	Wilson et al.	
	59.	5,993,402	11/1999	Sauer et al.	
	60.	D434,500	11/2000	Pollock et al.	
	61.	6,159,006	12/2000	Cook et al.	
	62.	D441,861	05/2001	Hafliger	
	63.	D470,660	02/2003	Schaber	
	64.	D475,346	06/2003	McCurrah et al.	
	65.	D482,451	11/2003	Page et al.	
	66.	6,659,674	12/2003	Carlucci et al.	
	67.	6,689,078	02/2004	Rehkemper et al.	
	68.	6,719,561	04/2004	Gugel et al.	
	69.	6,739,782	05/2004	Rehkemper et al.	
	70.	D492,996	07/2004	Rehkemper et al.	
	71.	6,766,549	07/2004	Klupt	
	72.	6,779,216	08/2004	Davies et al.	
	73.	D495,142	08/2004	Berde	
	74.	D495,143	08/2004	Berde	
	75.	D499,885	12/2004	Xi	
	76.	6,884,069	04/2005	Goldman	

U.S. PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	PUBLICATION NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
PL ↓ PL	77.	2001/0055742	12/2001	Hood et al.	
	78.	2003/0190581	10/2003	Segal	
	79.	2003/0213075	11/2003	Hui et al.	
	80.	2004/0122377	08/2004	Fischer et al.	
	81.	2004/0209222	10/2004	Snyder et al.	
	82.	2005/0004498	01/2005	Klupt	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	Name of PATENTEE or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Country Code ² - Number ³ - Kind Code ⁴ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
PL PL PL PL	83.	EP0023672	07/1980	Siemens Aktiengesellschaft		X
	84.	DT1466963	05/1969	Brennenstuhl Hugo		
	85.	GB2018605	10/1979	Winston Fred Wright		
	86.	WO04/021958	03/2004	Rehco, LLC		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁴
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED	
PL		6/20/2006	
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¹ Applicant's unique citation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov/mpep/901.04. ³ Error Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ Error Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁷ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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